

S. O. 31

I have told the Ministers of Transport that we should accept a new and more flexible agreement, provided we are not penalizing Quebec, Montreal and Mirabel, and certainly not the Italian community which I represent.

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[English]

FORESTRY AGREEMENTS

Mr. Dave Worthy (Cariboo—Chilcotin): Mr. Speaker, I urge the government to continue in its efforts to renegotiate the lapsed forestry agreements between the federal government and the provinces.

In recognition of the importance of this issue, I would like to advise that there was a unanimous recommendation from the forestry subcommittee that we in the strongest terms express to the minister our continued support for his efforts to renegotiate this agreement. It would be unthinkable if our provinces were in any way to allow these programs that are so valuable to our environment as well as our economy to lapse.

The minister has our support. I ask him to get those agreements.

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GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Peter L. McCreath (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, during the past 24 hours I have heard protestations of anguish from members opposite about the government's use of time allocation to conclude the debate on the GST bill.

At the same time, the unelected Liberal majority in the Senate is endlessly delaying Bill C-21, thereby costing unemployed Canadians thousands of dollars that they need and deserve.

Now we have the member for LaSalle—Émard, in his quest for the leadership, calling on the Senate to ignore the will of the democratically elected House by blocking the GST bill.

Meanwhile, the little guy from Shawinigan does not like the GST, but he would not scrap it.

This morning on CTV, Senator Kirby said the Senate should hear from those Canadians not heard by the finance committee. Yet, the Senate committee on Bill C-21 heard 54 of the same witnesses as had been heard by the legislative committee of this House.

The Liberals may be confusing themselves. They are not fooling Canadians. That is why this party is in power, and that is why this government will be re-elected.

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[Translation]

**PROGRAM FOR OLDER WORKERS
ADJUSTMENT**

Mrs. Carole Jacques (Mercier): Mr. Speaker, I wish to comment on an efficient government.

The reason I rise today in this House is to remind Hon. Members that last week, within the context of a federal-provincial initiative, the Federal Government showed leadership by entrusting the private sector with the management of the Program for Older Worker Adjustment through the awarding of several contracts for the purchase of life annuities.

The purpose of this program is to provide a regular and steady income to working men and women between the age of 55 and 64 who permanently lose their jobs as a result of mass lay-offs.

Mr. Speaker, it took only nine months from the time the legislation was passed to the time the first cheques were issued.

By having the private sector look after the management of the Program for Older Worker Adjustment, the Government did not have to set up a new bureaucracy thus saving additional costs which would have been spread over a couple of years.

I wish to congratulate the Federal Government for its leadership in this area, and especially Hon. Jean Corbeil, the Minister of Labour, in charge of this project to assist Canadian men and women who have contributed so much to our Canadian society.

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[English]

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Miss Deborah Grey (Beaver River): Mr. Speaker, last night the Prime Minister went to Alberta to soft sell the GST. It is obvious that Albertans are not going to be flattered into supporting it.

As the final vote for the GST approaches, we see how Alberta MPs are being strong armed. Albertans are against this GST and do not appreciate the chief government Whip bullying them into line, to oppose the wishes of the democratic majority. We see that two members